

CLAIMS

1. A method for making pallets from plant fibers comprising the steps of:
preparing unwoven fabric of randomly tangled plant fibers;
5 impregnating the unwoven fabric with resin to provide a sheet of base material;
 sandwiching and pressurizing the sheet of base material between upper and lower metal
molds having a plurality of hot-air vents made throughout their confronting areas; and
 heating the sheet of base material thus sandwiched by hot air blowing from one to the
other metal mold via the hot-air vents to shape the sheet of base material into a pallet with
10 recesses formed on its surface in consequence of the hot-air vents.
2. A method for making pallets according to claim 1, wherein the randomly tangled plant
fibers are prepared by separating the plant fibers from crushed shells of hard-shelled nut-like
fruits such as coconut shells and oily coconut shells, or from certain plants such as jute.
3. An apparatus for making pallets comprising: upper and lower metal molds confronting each
15 other; a plurality of hot-air vents made throughout confronting areas of both the upper and
lower metal molds; and a hot-air generating means having a hot-air outlet and a hot-air inlet
to which the hot-air vents of the upper and lower metal molds are connected respectively
and vice versa, thereby permitting hot air to circulate and pass through between the upper
and lower metal molds via the hot-air vents to provide a pallet with recesses formed on its
20 surface in consequence of the hot-air vents.
4. An apparatus for making pallets according to claim 3, wherein additional hot-air vents are
provided in circumference of said metal molds.